

REACT
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CA

A N N U A L R E P O R T

ON THE

HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITIONS

OF THE


URBAN DISTRICT OF LYMM

BY

E. H. GORDON, M. D., D. T. H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH





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Vice-Chairman : Mr. O. Davies (Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee)

Mr. J. Thomason

$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} = 0$

.....

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the Health and sanitary conditions of your district for the year 1958.

This decision allowed the Council to get down to dealing with the troublesome question of the future of the two old sewage works which are in a most unsatisfactory state of effectiveness and repair. The Council had to act, and, after careful consideration, they decided to embark upon the construction of a new sewage works. The Council were helped somewhat in reaching this decision by the new knowledge that some of the foundations for the motorway bridge over the Manchester Ship Canal would be sited on part of the sewage works at Statham, thereby critically reducing the area of the old works. There is no doubt that the new sewage works will cost a lot of money but the state of the existing sewage works and the increasing number of houses in the district leaves the Council with no alternative.

The West Hyde Clearance Area consists of eight houses, one being owner occupied and the remaining seven being in the ownership of one person.

I had occasion to mention in my Annual Report for last year that no Council Houses had been built since 1954. The various difficulties that led to such a state of affairs were resolved in the course of the year and in December the Minister of Housing and Local Government granted the Council's request to build 12 Council Houses. This means that the Slum Clearance Programme can be speeded up because the Council decided to allocate 78 houses for the purpose of rehousing families from slum type dwellings.

One of the three pumps that pump water from the wells for the supply of domestic water failed and was replaced by a more powerful pump in July. This new pump is capable of pumping all the water needed for normal domestic water demanded in the district as it is at present.

The estimated mid year population was 6,890 compared with 6,860 in 1957. The annual increase in the population has been small for many years, but it is foreseen that the increase may be expected to be greater in subsequent years because of the amount of Council and private development envisaged. There were 108 births during the year compared with 142 in 1957, so that the birth rate (crude) fell from 21.7 to 16.4. On the other hand there were 12 more deaths than in the previous year (77 in 1957, 89 in 1958) and the crude death rate therefore increased to 13.0 compared with 11.2 last year. The main causes of death were disease of blood vessels in the brain 20, coronary disease 12, other heart diseases 12, pneumonia 9. Carcinoma of the lung and bronchus accounted for 5 deaths compared with only one death in 1957.

In general it can be said that the health of the people in Lymm is very good and the sanitary conditions are satisfactory with the exception of the sewage works and this will be rectified in the near future.

I wish to thank Mr. Sucksmith, Public Health Inspector for his valuable assistance during the year and his help in the preparation of this report. The members of the office staff have also done good work in compiling the details and figures used in this report.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

E.H. GORDON,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Area | 4,242 acres |
| Population (Registrar General estimate mid 1958) | 6,890 |
| Number of inhabited houses | 2,270 |
| Size of household (average number of persons per house) | 3.03 |
| Rateable value of District | £57,458 |
| Value of a penny rate | £229 |

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

| Live births | Males | Females | Total |
|---|-------|---------|------------------|
| Legitimate | 48 | 60 | 108 |
| Illegitimate | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Total | 50 | 63 | 113 |
| Still births (all legitimate) | -- | 2 | 2 |
| Live births rate per 1,000 population (crude) | | | 16.4 |
| | | | (corrected) 16.0 |
| Birth rate for England and Wales | | | 16.4 |

There was a decrease of 36 in the number of births this year compared with 1957, the proportion of male and female children remaining about the same. There were 50 male and 63 female births and the crude birth rate was 16.4 births per 1,000 of the population. The corrected birth rate at 16.0 is below the birth rate for the whole of England and Wales which was 16.4.

There were two still births compared with three last year. Two male children and one female child died in the first month of life.

| | | | | | | |
|---|-------|----|---------|----|-------|------------------|
| <u>Deaths</u> | Males | 46 | Females | 43 | Total | 89 |
| Death rate per 1,000 population (crude) | | | | | | 13.0 |
| | | | | | | (corrected) 12.9 |
| Death rate for England and Wales | | | | | | 11.7 |
| Infantile Mortality (deaths of infants under 1 yr.) | | | | | | 3 |
| Infantile Mortality rate (per 1,000 associated live births) | | | | | | 26.5 |
| Maternal deaths | | | | | | Nil |

46 male and 43 female deaths (total 89) occurred compared with 77 deaths last year. This gave a crude death rate of 13.0 deaths per thousand of the population and a corrected death rate of 12.9 compared with the national death rate figure of 11.7.

| CAUSE | OF | DEATH | BY | SEX | AND | AGE | | | TOTAL |
|---|--|-------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| | | | | | | | 0-4 | 1-4 | |
| Malignant Neoplasm | Stomach | M | | | | | | | 1 |
| | | F | | | | | | | 1 |
| | Lung & Bronchus | M | | | | | | 2 | 4 |
| | | F | | | | | | | 1 |
| | Breast | M | | | | | | 1 | 3 |
| | | F | | | | | | | 3 |
| Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms | | M | | | | | | 2 | 6 |
| | | F | | | | | | 1 | 7 |
| Leukaemia, Aleukaemia | | M | | | | | | | 1 |
| | | F | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Vascular lesions of Nervous System | | M | | | | | | 2 | 5 |
| | | F | | | | | | 4 | 15 |
| Diabetes | | M | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| | | F | | | | | | | 2 |
| Coronary disease, Angina | Hypertension with heart disease | M | | | | | | 5 | 9 |
| | | F | | | | | | 2 | 12 |
| Other heart disease | | M | | | | | | 1 | 3 |
| | | F | | | | | | 2 | 7 |
| Other circulatory disease | | M | | | | | | 1 | 5 |
| | | F | | | | | | 2 | 12 |
| Pneumonia | | M | | | | | | 2 | 7 |
| | | F | | | | | | 3 | 9 |
| Bronchitis | Other diseases of respiratory system | M | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| | | F | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Congenital malformations | Other defined and ill defined diseases | M | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| | | F | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Motor vehicle accidents | | M | | | | | | | 3 |
| | | F | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Suicide | | M | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| | | F | | | | | | | 2 |
| TOTAL | | M | 3 | | | | 28 | 21 | 34 |
| | | F | | | | | 1 | | 1 |

The causes of death by age and sex are produced in the form of a table of which the main items have been commented on in the opening remarks of this report.

BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES for the
Past 10 years in Lymm U.D. (uncorrected)

| | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 |
|------------------|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Birth Rates | 16.05 | 12.71 | 16.2 | 13.5 | 13.2 | 16.0 | 16.4 | 17.4 | 21.7 | 16.4 |
| Death Rates | 12.15 | 13.2 | 13.4 | 10.5 | 13.2 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 11.7 | 11.2 | 13.0 |
| Inf. Mort. Rates | 9.9 | 49.0 | 29.0 | 11.5 | 11.9 | 28.0 | 9.9 | 8.5 | 26.8 | 26.5 |

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Eight cases of infectious disease were notified during the year, namely; 2 cases of whooping cough, 5 cases scarlet fever and one case of measles.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

These are provided by the Cheshire County Council, and are enumerated and described in the Appendix to this Report.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

General hospital accommodation is provided by the Warrington General Hospital and the Altrincham General Hospital, while a few special cases are admitted to the Manchester Hospitals.

Infectious diseases are mostly accommodated at the Warrington Infectious Diseases Hospital.

LABORATORY SERVICES

These are provided at the Regional Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester. A collection service is available specimens being left at the Council Offices, whence they are taken to Altrincham and picked up by the Laboratory each afternoon.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The Water is of a hard nature contains 18 degrees of temporary hardness and 16 degrees of permanent hardness, is provided by the Waterworks which is in the ownership of the Council There is a steady and abundant supply.

The water for the area was sampled regularly, the following samples being taken:-

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| Turbine Pump | - | 5 |
| Drysdale Pump | - | 3 |
| Sulzer Pump | - | 2 |
| Barclay's Bank | - | 2 |
| 199 Rush Green Road | - | 1 |
| Carr Green Farm | - | 1 |
| Jolly Thresher Hotel | - | 1 |
| Manor Farm | - | 1 |
| 73 Booths Hill Road | - | 1 |
| Building Site, Higher Ln. | - | 1 |
| 181c Rush Green Road | - | 1 |
| Whitbarrow Road Housing | | |
| Site | - | 1 |
| Builders Tap, Grove Ave.- | - | 1 |
| Council Offices | - | 1 |
| Church Green Drinking Tap | | 1 |

With the exception of one sample results were satisfactory. Investigation quickly followed the unsatisfactory sample and the defect found and rectified.

Chlorination is continued to all water as it leaves the Pumps and before entering the service pipes.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The work of keeping the public conveniences clean is not easy by reason of the irresponsible action of certain members of the community. However regular attention is paid to this matter with very satisfactory results.

HOUSING REPAIRS

Four Preliminary Notices and Nine Statutory Notices were served following upon complaints from householders. In all instances the work was completed without any necessity for prosecution.

SCHOOLS

The primary schools at Pepper Street and Statham are outdated and it is doubtful whether the school at Statham will be able to accommodate any considerable intake of pupils from any future housing development which might take place in that part of the district.

The Grammar and Secondary Modern Schools will also be faced with accommodation difficulties for some years to come, especially the Secondary Modern School which will have to take pupils from the proposed Manchester Corporation estate at Partington.

FOOD HYGIENE

The practice of the hygienic handling of food is covered by Acts of Parliament and Regulations. However, it is the personal touch that matters, the personal touch with the food handler's fingers. Are the food handler's hands, fingers and around the nails, clean, are the fingers licked prior to picking up wrapping paper, are the hands washed after handling potatoes just before picking up bacon slices? The officials cannot be in every shop all the time, and besides they are recognised, and therefore they cannot see every error on the food handler's part, but the housewives in the course of their shopping must see instances of bad practice. The housewife in this country could well adopt the method of the American housewife which is "protect yourself".

The American housewife will not put up with bad practice because (1) she doesn't like it and (2) it could lead to costly medical treatment.

The shopper can do a lot to raise food handling standards and we should all have the courage of our convictions and refuse to accept bad food handling practices.

RODENT CONTROL

A free Rodent Control service for private dwelling houses is provided and treatments requested by business premises are carried out and charged on a cost basis.

The refuse tip, sewage farms and other buildings in the ownership of the Council are periodically examined and any necessary treatment carried out.

ICE-CREAM

There are 23 premises within the area registered for the sale of ice-cream. Only one of these still sells loose ice-cream, the remainder being pre-packed.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The deficiencies and inadequacies of the sewage works are common knowledge. The decision of the Minister of Housing and Local Government to refuse the application of the Manchester Corporation to build a large housing estate at Lymm, now leaves the way clear for the Council to proceed with all speed in the construction of the new sewage disposal works.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

There are now only 37 houses in the district still using pail closets, the remainder being connected to the sewers. This, in a district of the nature of Lymm is very commendable.

REFUSE COLLECTION

The Surveyor's Department is responsible for this service. The disposal of the refuse is done by means of controlled tipping in part of the Ridgway/Grundy Memorial Park.

MEAT INSPECTION

During the period the number of animals slaughtered in the area was as follows:-

| <u>Beasts</u> | <u>Calves</u> | <u>Bullocks</u> |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 102 | 2 | 2 |

There was a 100% inspection of all notified cases of slaughter which resulted in detention of the undermentioned meat as being unfit for human consumption:-

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Beasts' Liver | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11 |
| Part Beasts' Liver | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Broken leg | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Beasts' Lung | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |

The detained meat and offal was collected and disposed of for conversion to fertiliser.

OTHER FOODS

Upon examination the following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption and were voluntarily surrendered:-

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|
| Cooked Ham | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 30 lbs. |
| Tinned Milk | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 tins |
| Tinned Meat | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9 " |
| Fruit | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 33 " |
| Fish | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 " |
| Carrots | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 " |
| Beans | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 " |
| Peas | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 " |
| Soup | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 " |
| Tomatoes | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9 " |
| Marmalade | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 jar |
| Flour | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 80 lbs. |
| Sugar | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 50 lbs. |

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDING INSPECTOR'S VISITS.

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Water supply | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 67 |
| Drainage | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 71 |
| Vans and Sheds | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Stables and Piggeries | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Factories | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20 |
| Bakehouses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Smoke observation | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Refuse collection | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Refuse disposal | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 |
| Rats and Mice | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 54 |
| Schools | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 19 |
| Shops | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10 |
| Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 147 |
| Visits for Purposes of Building Inspection | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 343 |
| Visits to Council Properties | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1258 |
| Houses inspected under Public Health Acts | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 85 |
| Visits paid to above houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 84 |
| Houses inspected under Housing Acts | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 62 |
| Visits paid to above houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 82 |
| Filthy or Verminous Premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Visits paid to above houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Miscellaneous Housing visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 61 |
| Inquiries in cases of Infectious Diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Visits re Disinfection | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Butchers | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Grocers | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Restaurants | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Greengrocers and Fruiterers | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Visits to Slaughterhouses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 55 |
| Visits for Meat Inspection | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 53 |
| Visits to Shops and Stalls | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SALE & LYNN DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

1958

Divisional Health Office,
Town Hall,
Sale.

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the report on the Local Health Authority Services for the year 1958.

The introduction into this country from America of poliomyelitis vaccine caused quite a stir but it was an essential move in the campaign to protect the very vulnerable 6 month to 15 year old age groups of the population before the summer months when poliomyelitis was to be expected. The manufacturers of the British vaccine ran into unexpected trouble in its production and there was the possibility that there would not be enough vaccine made in this country to complete the programme. The absence of any major epidemics of poliomyelitis could have been due to the use of poliomyelitis vaccine but the possibility of a natural decline, irrespective of the vaccination programme, cannot be eliminated. Increased production of the British vaccine after the earlier difficulties had been surmounted, plus the availability of American made vaccine permitted the extension of the age groups up to and including the 25 year old persons.

The demand for the Welfare Foods fell considerably compared with 1957 during which year the demand was less than in 1956. This fall in demand has been counter balanced by an increase in the sales of proprietary infant foods.

The attendances at the Child Welfare Centres showed a reduction compared with last year. The attendances in 1957 were an increase, though not great, on the figures for 1956.

The demands made on the Altrincham, Sale & Lymm Division of the Cheshire Ambulance Service continued the steady increase that has occurred over the past years. The division covers the areas administered by the Sale & Lymm Divisional Health Committee and the Altrincham Divisional Health Committee. A total of 34,166 patients were transported in the course of 14,854 journeys involving a mileage of 226,207 miles - almost a quarter of a million miles in the year.

The Home Nurses had fewer cases to deal with in Sale and more in Lymm. The Home Help Service provided more assistance than last year.

The work done by the County Health Services during the year has shown a general all round increase, although this increase in work done and services provided is not revealed to the full extent in the statistical returns. The work is really a personal service to the community and such service is not readily reflected in mere figures and numbers. Discussion with all members of the County Health Service working in the Division gives some insight into the varied type of service provided and the problems and difficulties which have to be solved one way or the other.

The various members of the staff have worked extremely well in their own speciality. They have given devoted service and brought assistance and comfort to many hundreds of people and the opportunity is taken here to record their valuable work.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

E. H. GORDON

Divisional Medical Officer.

SALE AND LYMM DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman

Councillor Mrs. W. M. Phillips, M.A., J.P.

Deputy Chairman

Councillor Mrs. K. V. I. Horrocks

Representing the Local Health Authority (Cheshire County Council)

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County Alderman F. D. Gee

County Councillor Mrs. K. L. M. Hughes

County Councillor P. A. A. Pepper

County Alderman A. Whitley.

County Councillor E. A. Wright

Representing the Sale Borough Council

Alderman R. P. Bannister, LL.B.

Councillor Mrs. M. Cave

Councillor H. H. Cunliffe

Councillor Mrs. M. Dickinson, J.P.

Councillor G. A. O'Brien

Councillor Mrs. W. M. Phillips, M.A., J.P.

Councillor J. S. Rowlinson

Councillor J. G. Steel, B.E.M.

Councillor Mrs. L. Stockdale

Councillor C. G. Woodward

Representing Lymm Urban District Council

Councillor Mrs. M. Price

Councillor Mrs. K. V. I. Horrocks

Co-opted Members

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Mr. S. N. Duguid, J.P., B.Sc.

Miss E. Hatton

Mrs. D. King

Miss M. L. McMurtrey

Mr. P. S. Morrison

Dr. J. Phillips

Mrs. D. A. Seagrief

Clerk to the Committee

Mr. Bertram Finch

DIVISIONAL HEALTH OFFICE STAFF

Divisional Medical Officer

Dr. E. H. Gordon, M.D., D.P.H.

Chief Clerk

Mr. W. Willson

Clerical Staff

Mrs. E. Aldhouse

Mrs. S. M. Rock

Miss W. England

REPORT ON THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES
IN THE DIVISION

WELFARE CENTRES -

(a) Mothers' Clinics

The number of new cases at the ante-natal clinics increased by 26 and there was an increase of 60 in the number of attendances. The clinic is held each Wednesday afternoon at the Chapel Road Clinic, Sale for the purpose of the early ascertainment of any departure from the normal in pregnancy, preparation for confinement in the attitude of mind as well as physically by relaxation exercises, and for health education. The clinic is used, in the main, by women who will have their babies at home and have booked the County Midwife for the confinement, but the clinic facilities are available also to women who attend their own doctor or hospital for ante-natal care. The figures in the table show that on the average a woman pays five visits to the ante-natal clinic during her pregnancy.

| | <u>New Cases</u> | <u>Total attendances</u> |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Ante-natal | 224 | 1081 |
| Post-natal | 19 | 20 |
| Dental - pre-natal | 10 | 24 |
| - nursing mothers | 4 | 14 |
| Dentures supplied | | 1 |

(b) Child Welfare Clinics

The figures for the attendances at the clinics show the popularity of the Child Welfare Clinics. The ladies of the Voluntary Committees who come to help in the clinics do a great service by releasing the Health Visitors from the weighing of the babies and the record keeping. The Health Visitors have more time and opportunity to circulate among the mothers to advise on the care of the children. On the first attendance of a child at a clinic the child is seen, or arrangements are made for him to be seen by the doctor in charge of the clinic. These consultations with the doctor are most important. The mother is greatly relieved to know that her child is normal and well, and the doctor can advise on the child's feeding programme. Each child is a separate entity and will therefore behave differently in every way, including feeding habits, from other children whether in the same family or not. Mothers are naturally very prone to compare their child with their older child or children and with the child in another family. Any departure a child may make from its mother's preconceived ideas causes distress in the mother and this distress is sometimes quite marked and causes a reaction in the child. A doctor's reassurance will allay the mother's fears, her emotions settle down and her child reacts favourably. The great range of normality is not appreciated by many mothers.

| <u>Clinic Attendances</u> | <u>New Cases</u> | <u>Doctors' Consultations</u> | <u>Total Attendances</u> | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | | <u>0-1</u> | <u>1-2</u> | <u>2-5</u> |
| Sale - Chapel Road | 261 | 839 | 3316 | 530 | 300 |
| Sale Moor | 215 | 661 | 2274 | 316 | 166 |
| Raglan Road | 146 | 654 | 2134 | 289 | 127 |
| Brooks' Institute | 127 | 533 | 2050 | 316 | 42 |
| Lymm | 132 | 625 | 1649 | 538 | 576 |
| | <u>881</u> | <u>3312</u> | <u>11423</u> | <u>1989</u> | <u>1211</u> |

Specialist Clinics (attendances by children under 5 years of age)

| | <u>New Cases</u> | <u>Total attendances</u> |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Ophthalmic - Sale | 81 | 93 |
| - Lymm | 9 | 28 |
| Dental | 47 | 60 |

Sale of Proprietary Welfare Foods (Sale Moor, Raglan Road and Brooks' Institute Centres)

| | | <u>1957</u> | <u>1958</u> |
|---------------|---|---------------|---------------|
| Stocks bought | - | £861. 17. 10. | £978.. 2. 6. |
| Total Sales | - | £924. 12. 0. | £1044. 19. 9. |

The sales of proprietary infant foods continue to rise at the expense of the Welfare Foods.

(c) Distribution of Ministry of Food Welfare Foods

The table shows the very considerable drop in the demand for National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil, Vitamin tablets and Orange Juice. This fall in demand is explained to a large extent by the increase in price of National Dried Milk from 10½d per tin to 2/4d. per tin with effect from the 1st November, on which date also the issue of Orange Juice was restricted to children under the age of two years; hitherto it was available up to the age of five years. There has been a decided fall in the demand for National Dried Milk apart from the price increase because more money is generally available which permits the purchase of the proprietary brands of dried milk.

| | <u>1957</u> | <u>1958</u> |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| National Dried Milk | - 15,712 tins | 12,853 tins |
| Cod Liver Oil | - 4,763 bottles | 3,176 bottles |
| Vitamin Tablets | - 3,649 packets | 3,585 packets |
| Orange Juice | - 53,616 bottles | 34,766 bottles |
| Total Items | - 77,740 articles | 54,380 articles |
| Cash and stamps received | - £2,639. 8. 1d. | £2,242. 10. 8d. |

DAY NURSERY

The Day Nursery is used to its full capacity and has the highest percentage of priority cases in attendance in the whole county. Priority cases include children whose mothers are ill, or whose parents both have to go to work, or the child whose admission is recommended on medical grounds for either his or his mother's sake. There were 38 children on the register at the beginning of the year and 34 at the end of the year. Only 18 children were on the register throughout the twelve months, illustrating the extent the nursery is used for priority cases. The average daily attendance throughout the year was maintained at 30, which is the permitted number of places.

| | |
|--|------|
| Number on register 1st January, 1958 | - 38 |
| Number admitted during the year | - 39 |
| Number left during the year | - 43 |
| Number on register 31st December, 1958 | - 34 |
| Average daily attendance | - 30 |

18 children were in the nursery throughout the period.

MIDWIFERY SERVICE

The domiciliary midwifery service coped with fewer home confinements than last year, 25 less in Sale and 27 less in Lymm. There is a big demand for hospital confinements which, in the case of Sale, is very high compared with the whole of the Manchester region. Although many mothers would rather have their babies in hospital, many are also recommended on social grounds, for the first baby, for the fourth baby or over, and if the mother's age is near the 40 years irrespective of the birth order of the baby.

| <u>Cases Attended</u> | <u>Sale</u> | <u>Lymm</u> |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| As Midwife (i.e. in sole charge) | - 41 | 33 |
| As Maternity Nurse (i.e. under the supervision of a medical practitioner) | - 77 | 4 |
| <u>Totals</u> | <u>118</u> | <u>37</u> |

Sometime early in 1959 the Maternity Unit will remove from the Sale & Brooklands Memorial Hospital to the Ashton-on-Mersey Maternity Hospital. This removal will increase the number of surgical beds in the Memorial Hospital and it will also be an advantage for the maternity cases to be in a separate building altogether.

HEALTH VISITING

The Health Visitor continues to be a most valuable worker in any Health Department. She originally dealt with the care of mothers and children but more and more she finds that she has the whole family on her hands. More and more of her time is being devoted to the care of the old people. This is a most valuable part of her work although not always the most pleasant and sometimes not apparently the most rewarding.

HOME NURSING

The amount of work for the Home Nurses in 1957 was in Sale less than in 1956 and in Lymm it was more than in 1956. The same pattern is repeated in 1958 and in Sale 175 fewer cases were attended compared with 1957, whereas in Lymm 68 more cases received Home Nursing attention. The use of antibiotics and a more rapid turnover of patients in hospital with a consequent greater number of admissions for treatment is reflected in Sale in fewer cases dealt with and a great reduction in the total number of visits made by the nurses; Lymm, on the other hand, is not so well served by hospitals and there an increase in the Home Nurses' work is recorded.

| | <u>Sale</u> | <u>Lymm</u> |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Cases attended | 404 | 341 |
| Total visits | 5,554 | 6,777 |

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Protection against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, smallpox and poliomyelitis can be afforded by immunisation and vaccination. Regular sessions are run at the Chapel Road Clinic and many general practitioners carry out the preventive measures in their own surgeries with material obtained at the Divisional Health Office. All the diseases listed are infectious diseases which can be prevented, or their severity reduced, by immunisation or vaccination. It is the duty of all parents to ensure that their children are adequately protected against those diseases which can be controlled by such simple procedures as immunisation and vaccination. It is too late to regret lack of action when the child falls ill, by then it is too late and hope must be placed in curative medicine with its costly drugs to pull the child through. It is true that many parents have never seen, for example, a case of diphtheria let alone heard of one. Hence it is only too easy for them to think that their child won't suffer from one of these dreaded diseases, but yet it does still happen time and time again. The need for these preventive measures is repeated over and over again in the clinics by the doctors and health visitors.

| | Smallpox | | | | Diphtheria | | | | Whooping | |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------|-----|----------|-----|
| | Re | | Primary | | Re | | | | | |
| | Vaccination | Vaccination | Immunisation | Immunisation | Immunisation | Immunisation | Cough | | | |
| | (a) | (b) | (a) | (b) | (a) | (b) | (a) | (b) | (a) | (b) |
| Pre-School Children | 624 | 60 | 1 | - | 691 | 132 | 11 | - | 639 | 81 |
| School Children | 22 | 2 | 5 | - | 25 | 5 | 327 | 16 | 2 | 1 |
| Adults | 42 | - | 70 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Totals | 688 | 62 | 76 | - | 716 | 137 | 338 | 16 | 641 | 82 |

(a) Sale
(b) Lymm

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

| | <u>Sale</u> | <u>Lynn</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Pre and School Children | 1723 | 254 |
| Over 15 | 2 | - |
| Expectant mothers | <u>6</u> | <u>-</u> |
| <u>Total</u> | <u>1731</u> | <u>254</u> |

The table shows the number of children who completed the course of injections in the year. The figure for poliomyelitis vaccination in expectant mothers and in the over 15 age group looks very disappointing but in fact these two groups could not have completed their course of protection before the end of the year and it must be appreciated that with poliomyelitis vaccination an interval of at least seven months must elapse between the second and third injection of the vaccine.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

Mr. Kirkby, the Ambulance Supervisor, retired at the end of the year after ten years with the County Ambulance Service and the opportunity is taken to record here the devoted service and the excellent work done by Mr. Kirkby. It is sad to lose a good officer who has spent nearly twenty years serving the sick and the wounded.

| | <u>Altrincham</u> | <u>Sale</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Mileage | 125,958 | 100,249 | 226,207 |
| Journeys | 8,056 | 6,798 | 14,854 |
| Patients | 18,734 | 15,432 | 34,166 |
| Night Calls | 1,075 | 754 | 1,829 |
| Average Miles | | | |
| per journey | 15.6 | 14.7 | 15.2 |
| Average Patients | | | |
| per journey | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.3 |

Analysis of Cases

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Surgical and medical treatment | 16,635 | 13,371 | 30,006 |
| Accidents and Emergencies | 1,263 | 1,015 | 2,278 |
| Sudden Illness | 119 | 99 | 218 |
| Maternity | 400 | 337 | 737 |
| Midwives Equipment | 7 | 138 | 145 |
| Welfare Food etc. | 38 | 236 | 274 |
| Ineffective and Service Journeys | 197 | 303 | 500 |
| Room to Room | 51 | 21 | 72 |
| House to House | <u>41</u> | <u>22</u> | <u>63</u> |
| | <u>18,751</u> | <u>15,542</u> | <u>34,293</u> |

The figures contained in the table show the enormous amount of work done by the Ambulance Service, and for the first time in the annual report the total amount of work is included for the two depots. The building of a central

ambulance station to take the place of the two existing depots was still a castle in the air at the end of the year, although it seemed to be less of a dream than twelve months before.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE & AFTER-CARE

Although still mainly devoted to the tuberculosis patients this aspect of the work of the Division is expanding in the care of the elderly and of sufferers from chronic diseases such as multiple sclerosis and a hoist was obtained for a helpless sufferer of this latter disease to enable him to be lifted out of bed and taken into another room where he could be placed in a chair, or he could be taken to the toilet. Such persons when helpless are very difficult to lift because they are unable to co-operate with the persons who have to move them. In another such case but not quite so badly affected advice was given to the parents on the type of equipment which they wished to install themselves.

| <u>TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER</u> | <u>MALES</u> | | <u>FEMALES</u> | | <u>Total</u> |
|---|--------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|--------------|
| | <u>Pulm.</u> | <u>Non-Pulm.</u> | <u>Pulm.</u> | <u>Non-Pulm.</u> | |
| <u>Sale</u> | | | | | |
| On register 1st January, 1958 | 110 | 18 | 90 | 8 | 226 |
| Added to register | 23 | 1 | 16 | 1 | 41 |
| Removed from register | 17 | 4 | 12 | 2 | 35 |
| Remaining on register 31st Dec. 1958 | 116 | 15 | 94 | 7 | 232 |
| Admitted to Sanatoria during the year | 12 | - | 5 | - | 17 |
| Discharged from Sanatoria during the year | 11 | - | 7 | - | 18 |
| <u>Lymm</u> | | | | | |
| On register 1st January, 1958 | 15 | 4 | 16 | 2 | 37 |
| Added to register | 2 | - | 1 | - | 3 |
| Removed from register | 1 | - | 1 | - | 2 |
| Remaining on register 31st Dec. 1958 | 16 | 4 | 16 | 2 | 38 |
| Admitted to Sanatoria during the year | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| Discharged from Sanatoria during the year | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |

Various items of nursing equipment are available on a small loan charge for use by persons who are sick at home and wheel chairs are constantly in use for crippled persons who would otherwise be confined to their homes.

Occupational therapy is provided by a trained therapist for those unfortunate people who are crippled but can use their hands to the full or limited extent and some of the work turned out is very good for which there is quite a ready sale.

Convalescent holidays are arranged and a contribution made where there is financial hardship for persons in need of a recuperative period away from home. This type of convalescence is quite separate from that recommended by a hospital where the convalescence is really an extension of the treatment received in hospital and such is the responsibility of the Hospital Authority.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

The Domestic Help Service operates under considerable difficulty all the time. The main demand on the service is for part time help and that in the mornings. There is considerable difficulty in getting suitable women to run the service. They have to work on their own without adequate supervision, because in the absence of a supervisor the Health Visitors have the over-sight of the Home Helps. This is an extra job for the Health Visitors which they have done to the best of their ability in what little time there is available to them.

The work of the Domestic Help Service increased by $3\frac{1}{4}\%$ compared with last year, and 15,279 hours of service were given to 175 cases. This figure includes 49 maternity cases which need full assistance during the day and 96 old people or chronic sick had a few hours help each week. The remaining 30 cases included sudden illness or hospital admission of mothers or similar unexpected instances.

There is one full time Home Help, and two of the 17 to 19 part time Home Helps give practically full time service so that virtually there are three full time Home Helps and about 16 to 18 part time Home Helps. The turn over among the part time women is considerable and some of the better women are offered attractive positions in homes where they have been sent and are lost to the service. It is practically impossible to compete with the private houses in the district where the wages may be higher and certainly the working conditions are much more attractive than encountered by the Home Helps. A good Home Help has to be imbued with a high sense of social duty which finds expression in giving active and practical help to persons who find themselves in unfortunate circumstances through sickness or old age or death of a wife or woman relative on whom they depended. The Home Help Service should be an emergency service and should be sufficiently flexible to deal with the sudden departures from normal which may affect any family. An exception is the care of the elderly, especially those unable to afford to pay for adequate help and who are unable to receive such help from relatives. It is regrettable to record that these ideals in the service show no signs of anything approaching immediate attainment.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Health education is going on all the time. The Health Visitors carry it into the clinics and the homes by personal approach. Posters on display are frequently changed so that the eye catches a different design and attention is focussed on it. Health education is a normal and integral part of the Health Visitors' work and she practices it in every conversation with mothers, the handicapped and the elderly. Talks to evening meetings of Parent Teachers' Associations, church groups etc. always contain a lot of propaganda on health matters.

A P P E N D I X

SUMMARY OF LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES IN THE SALE AND LYMM DIVISION

| | |
|--|--|
| Divisional Health Office | - Town Hall, Sale (SALE 2255) |
| Mothers' Clinics (Sale Welfare Centre) | |
| Ante-natal and post-natal clinic | - Each Wednesday afternoon |
| Dental Treatment | - Sale Welfare Centre - By appointment. |
| Infant Welfare Clinics | |
| Sale Chapel Road Centre | - Each Tuesday & Thursday afternoon. |
| Sale Moor Centre | - Each Thursday afternoon. |
| Sale Raglan Road Centre | - Each Tuesday afternoon. |
| Sale Brooks' Institute Centre | - Each Friday afternoon. |
| Lymm Welfare Centre | - Each Tuesday afternoon. |
| Specialist Clinics (Sale Welfare Centre) | |
| Ophthalmic | - By appointment. |
| Sunlight | - By appointment. |
| Day Nursery, Harley Road, Sale. | - Matron: Mrs. E. Howitt (SALE 4627) |
| Midwives | |
| Mrs. D. Lindley | - 65 Derbyshire Road South, Sale. (SALE 4383) |
| Mrs. I. E. Thompson | - 6 Lansdowns Road, Sale. (SALE 1140) |
| Miss J. Pike | - 21 The Crescent, Lymm (Lymm 725) |
| Health Visitors | |
| Miss B. Cunliffe | } Welfare Centre, 70 Chapel Road, Sale. (SALE 1329) |
| Mrs. E. Heywood | |
| Mrs. M. Holmes | |
| Miss M. Saunders | |
| Miss J. Sidebottom | |
| Miss F. Govan | - 29 Eagle Brow, Lymm. (Lymm 277) |
| Home Nurses | |
| Mrs. W. F. Raad | - 18 Clarendon Crescent, Sale. (SALE 6135) |
| Mrs. R. Adams | - 34 Oulton Avenue, Sale. (SALE 8453) |
| Mrs. J. R. Flood | - 22 Georges Road, Sale. (SALE 7033) |
| Miss B. Kitchen | - 13 Harcourt Road, Sale. (SALE 5764) |
| Mrs. A. E. Groucott | - 14A Church Lane, Sale. (SALE 4212) |
| Miss F. M. Kneale | - 26 Highfield Road, Lymm. (Lymm 116) |
| Mrs. A. B. James | - 61 Star Lane, Lymm. (Lymm 399) |
| Vaccination and Immunisation Clinics | |
| Sale Welfare Centre | - Each Friday morning. |
| Ambulance Stations | |
| Sale and Altrincham | - Central Control. (Altrincham 3256) |
| Care and After-Care | - Nursing requisites on application to the Divisional Health Office. |
| Domestic Help | - On application to the Divisional Health Office. |

